

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/732,087

Examiner

Li B. Zhen

Applicant(s)

MILLER ET AL.

Art Unit

2194

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to response filed 2/11/2005 and interview on 5/18/2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-28 and 31-34, now renumbered as claims 1-32.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 28 March 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 4/12/04; 5/10/04; 11/12/04; 5/4/05
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material

5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 5/18/05.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


MENG-AL T. AN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Lance R. Sadler on May 18, 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

- I. Cancel claims 29 and 30; and
- II. Replace claims 1, 17 and 31 with the following:

1. A system comprising:

a plurality of sources; and

an interface, selectively coupled to the plurality of sources, to generate and implement a media processing development project of processing chains at least one chain of which comprises multiple filters, wherein the interface loads a processing chain for each of the plurality of media sources at a point during the execution of the project when the chain is required, and wherein the interface is configured to unload at least a subset of the chains when they are not required, wherein unloading of said subset is accomplished based, at least in part, on a generated execution list comprising:

a chain identifier field which maintains a list of chains utilized in the project;

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a source identifier field which contains information denoting a project source;

a project time field which denotes at what point during the project execution of a source chain is required;

a source time field which denotes what portion of a source file is required; and

a dependencies field which denotes whether an associated chain is dependent on any other chains.

17. A computer-implemented method for generating and managing a media processing development project, the method comprising:

identifying processing chains required to support execution of the development project over the next M seconds, wherein at least some of said processing chains comprise multiple filters;

loading the identified processing chains as long as a currently loaded chain-count does not exceed an initial threshold, T, wherein T and M are greater than 0; and

unloading a subset of loaded processing chains based, at least in part, on a generated execution list comprising:

a chain identifier field which maintains a list of chains utilized in the project;

a source identifier field which contains information denoting a project source;

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a project time field which denotes at what point during the project execution of a source chain is required;

a source time field which denotes what portion of a source file is required;

and

a dependencies field which denotes whether an associated chain is dependent on any other chains.

31. A storage medium comprising a plurality of executable instructions which, when executed by a computer, implements an interface to manage development and execution of a media processing development project, wherein the interface identifies processing chains at least some of which comprise multiple filters required to support execution of the development project over the next M seconds, and loads the identified processing chains as long as a currently loaded chain-count does not exceed an initial threshold, T, wherein M and T are greater than 0, and wherein the interface unloads chains based, at least in part, on a generated execution list comprising:

a chain identifier field which maintains a list of chains utilized in the project;

a source identifier field which contains information denoting a project source;

a project time field which denotes at what point during the project execution of a source chain is required;

a source time field which denotes what portion of a source file is required;

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and

a dependencies field which denotes whether an associated chain is dependent on any other chains.


Conclusion

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Li B. Zhen whose telephone number is (571) 272-3768. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon - Fri, 8:30am - 5pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Meng-Ai An can be reached on (571) 272-3756. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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